

THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A game adapted to be played on a grass surface, the game comprising:
one or more portable solid-surface game obstacles structured to cause a game ball to change vertical position relative to a playing field to which the obstacles are attached after said ball has been struck,
wherein at least one of the game obstacles is structured to cause a ball to travel in a helical loop, ~~and the game obstacles are~~ and is further structured to be temporarily affixed to the playing field by removable securing stakes.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Currently amended) The game of claim 1 wherein at least one obstacle comprises at least two receivers forming elongated support structures through which at least two the securing stakes can be respectively passed.
4. (Currently amended) The game of claim ~~3~~ 1, ~~further comprising at least two~~ wherein the one or more obstacles each include receivers, the securing stakes each having a first lower portion structured to pass through one of the receivers and each having a second an upper portion that is separated from the lower portion by a projection structured to mechanically interfere with an entrance a portion of one of the receivers to secure the at least one obstacle to the playing field.
5. (Currently amended) The game of claim 4 wherein the stakes are coded to identify corresponding with an identification included on a game ball or game player.
6. (Currently amended) The game of claim ~~3~~ 4 wherein ~~at least one of the receivers comprises an eyelet~~ the upper portion is approximately the same length as the lower portion and the projection includes a diameter larger than a radial diameter of the upper or lower portions.

7. (Currently amended) The game of claim ~~3~~ 6 wherein ~~at least one of the receivers comprises a lug~~ the upper portion includes a flag or other obstacle designator.

8-10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently amended) A portable helical loop yard game obstacle, comprising:
a main surface having a generally helical curved shape; and
~~first and second raised edges attached to side edges~~ an entrance of the main surface
lying on top of a playing surface; and
an attaching device attaching the entrance to the playing surface, wherein the obstacle
is removably positional in different orientations on the playing surface.

12. (Currently amended) The obstacle of claim 11 further comprising at least one receiver coupled to ~~an edge~~ the entrance of the obstacle and structured to accept ~~an the~~
~~attaching device~~ device therethrough, wherein the attaching device includes a lower portion
structured to pass through an opening of the receiver and an upper portion that is separated
from the lower portion by a projection structured to mechanically interfere with the opening.

13. (Currently amended) The obstacle of claim 12 wherein ~~the attaching device is~~
~~a stake~~ the projection includes a diameter larger than the opening.

14. (Currently amended) The obstacle of claim ~~11~~ 13 wherein ~~the main surface is~~
~~wider than the diameter of a game ball~~ the upper portion is approximately the same length as
the lower portion.

15. (Currently amended) The obstacle of claim ~~11~~ 14 ~~wherein the obstacle has an~~
~~entry end and an exit end, the obstacle further comprising a flange coupled to the entry end~~
including a flag or other obstacle designator connected to the upper portion.

16 - 26. (Cancelled).

27. (Previously Presented) A croquet obstacle set, comprising:
a first obstacle structured to be temporarily secured to a playing surface and structured
to ramp a croquet ball that enters an entry portion of the first obstacle;

a second obstacle structured to be temporarily secured to a playing surface and structured to cause a croquet ball that enters an entry portion of the second obstacle to travel in a helical loop;

a third obstacle structured to be temporarily secured to a playing surface and structured to cause a croquet ball to travel around a banked curve structure; and

a fourth obstacle structured to be temporarily secured to a playing surface and structured to ramp through an inclined tunnel a croquet ball that enters an entry portion of the fourth obstacle.

28. (Previously Presented) The croquet set of claim 27 wherein at least one of the obstacles structured to be temporarily securable to a playing surface includes a securing device coupled to the at least one obstacle.

29. (Original) The croquet set of claim 28 wherein the securing device is a receiver through which a stake can pass.

30. (Currently Amended) The game of claim 1, wherein ~~at least one of the game obstacles is structured to cause a ball cause a ball to bank around a corner~~ an exit of a first game obstacle is attachable to an entrance of a second game obstacle.

31. (New) The game of claim 30, wherein a single securing stake is provided to pass through an exit receiver of the first game obstacle and through an entrance receiver of the second game obstacle.

32. (New) The game of claim 1 wherein the game obstacle includes enclosed walls forming a helical tunnel.

33. (New) The game of claim 1 wherein at least one of the game obstacles is structured to be temporarily secured to a playing surface and structured to ramp a croquet ball that enters an entry portion.

34. (New) The game of claim 33 wherein at least one of the game obstacles is structured to be temporarily secured to a playing surface and structured to cause a croquet ball to travel around a banked curve structure.

35. (New) The game of claim 1 wherein at least one of the game obstacles is structured to be temporarily secured to a playing surface and structured to cause a croquet ball to travel around a banked curve structure.

36. (New) The obstacle of claim 11 wherein the obstacle has an exit end that is attachable to a second obstacle entrance.

37. (New) The obstacle of claim 36 wherein the attaching device is configured to attach the obstacle and second obstacle.

38. (New) The obstacle of claim 11 including enclosed walls forming a helical tunnel.

39. (New) A croquet obstacle set, comprising:
a first obstacle structured to be temporarily secured to a playing surface and structured to ramp a croquet ball that enters an entry portion of the first obstacle; and
a second obstacle structured to be temporarily secured to a playing surface and structured to cause a croquet ball that enters an entry portion of the second obstacle to travel in a helical loop.

40. (New) The croquet obstacle set of claim 39 including a third obstacle structured to be temporarily secured to a playing surface and structured to cause a croquet ball to travel around a banked curve structure.

41. (New) The croquet obstacle set of claim 39 including a third obstacle structured to be temporarily secured to a playing surface and structured to ramp through an inclined tunnel a croquet ball that enters an entry portion of the third obstacle.

42. (New) A croquet obstacle set, comprising:
a first obstacle structured to be temporarily secured to a playing surface and structured to cause a croquet ball to travel around a banked curve structure; and

a second obstacle structured to be temporarily secured to a playing surface and structured to cause a croquet ball that enters an entry portion of the second obstacle to travel in a helical loop.

43. (New) The croquet obstacle set of claim 42 including a third obstacle structured to be temporarily secured to a playing surface and structured to ramp through an inclined tunnel a croquet ball that enters an entry portion of the third obstacle.

44. (New) A croquet obstacle set, comprising:
a first obstacle structured to be temporarily secured to a playing surface and structured to cause a croquet ball that enters an entry portion of the second obstacle to travel in a helical loop; and

a second obstacle structured to be temporarily secured to a playing surface and structured to ramp through an inclined tunnel a croquet ball that enters an entry portion of the second obstacle.